

In the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0005] as follows:

Q1 [0005] Figs. 1 and 2\_3 show a microscope 10 comprising a microscope stand 11 formed in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention. At the bottom rear portion of microscope stand 11 is a male power inlet 12 for coupling with a female plug 14A of a power cord 14. A male plug 14B of power cord 14 is received by a standard female power outlet 16, such as a wall or bench outlet, wired to the building power supply. In accordance with the present invention, microscope stand 11 further comprises an auxiliary power outlet 18 adjacent power inlet 12 for connecting an auxiliary component 20, such as a video camera, monitor, computer, illumination source, or other useful component, to the building power supply. Auxiliary component 20 is connected, for example, by a power cord 15 having a female plug 15A coupled to a power inlet of the auxiliary component (power cord 15 might also be hard-wired at the power inlet of the auxiliary component) and a male plug 15B coupled to auxiliary power outlet 18 of microscope stand 11.

Please amend paragraph [0009] as follows:

Q2 [0009] Fig. 3\_4 is a schematic block diagram of the relevant electrical circuitry of microscope stand 11 according to the preferred embodiment. Microscope stand 11 comprises a main controller printed circuit board 22, a lamp 24 connected to circuit board 22, and an intensity control mechanism 26 also connected to circuit board 22 for controlling the voltage applied to

lamp 24 to regulate the intensity of illumination provided by the lamp. Microscope stand 11 further comprises power inlet 12 with dual-pole fuse holders used to accept any IEC-60320-1 style power cord for connecting the power cord to the circuit board 22. A double-pole, single throw switch 34, normally open, is preferably provided between power inlet 12 and circuit board 22. The input power signal is transmitted via circuit board 22 to auxiliary power outlet 18, and to a universal power supply (not shown) associated with circuit board 22 for converting the power signal to a direct current voltage powering the circuit board elements.

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